TRAFFICKING IN COLORADO.

" Since Denver is the only major urban area for many miles, it's a hub for many industries where trafficking has been found. On the other hand, because much of the state is rural and agricultural, it's also easy to hide victims working as farmers or sheepherders. Groups such as Colorado Legal Services have noted many examples of abuse and exploitation of migrant sheepherders on H2a visas. Unfortunately, legal loopholes leave workers with few options when confronted with inadequate housing, food, and pay. There is also little oversight of employers, so some abusive practices go unpunished.

QUICK FACTS

Populations vulnerable in Colorado:
- Immigrants on H2, B1, B2, or A3 visas
- Undocumented migrants
- Refugees/ asylees
- People experiencing homelessness
- Victims of domestic abuse or sexual violence
- LGBTQI people
- Women, youth, and children
- People with disabilities

EXAMPLES OF COLORADO INDUSTRIES WHERE TRAFFICKING HAS BEEN REPORTED

- Farm labor
- Commercial sex
- Sheepherding
- Nursing
- Domestic labor
- Restaurant work

EFFECTS OF COLORADO'S ANTI-TRAFFICKING LEGISLATION (HB 14-1273)

- Brought Colorado in line with federal statutes and national standards dealing with trafficking. The change was so great Polaris rated Colorado as "Most Improved in 2014."
- Repealed previous trafficking laws that were found unconstitutional
- Provided greater protections for children
- Created the Human Trafficking Council, which helps law enforcement, researchers, and government and nongovernment service providers coordinate anti-trafficking efforts.